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December 20, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT
TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND
THE LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY FOR
SERVICES TO HOMELESS CalWORKs FAMILIES (CONTRACT #75159)
(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), to execute an amendment substantially similar to Attachment A to extend the existing contract (Contract #75159) with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), for six months, from January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006, to continue providing outreach and emergency shelter services to homeless CalWORKs families at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS, to authorize the use of \$1,900,000 of Performance Incentive-net County cost (PI-NCC) funds identified as uncommitted for the Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) program to be used during FY 05-06 to sustain the Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction (EAPE) and the Moving Assistance (MA) programs for the non-Welfare-to-Work (WtW) CalWORKs participants.

There is no additional net County cost (NCC) after the required CalWORKs Maintenance of Effort (MOE) is met. The approval of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) and County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to executing such amendment.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The current contract with LAHSA for outreach and emergency shelter for homeless CalWORKs families expires December 31, 2005. On September 13, 2005, your Board delegated authority to the DPSS Director to amend Contract # 75159 with LAHSA to increase the contract amount by no more than \$750,000 for the period of October 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005, to be allocated by Supervisorial District based on CalWORKs caseload density.

The reason for this approach is, at that time, it was uncertain whether there would be sufficient CalWORKs Single Allocation funding available in FY 05-06 to continue all or some of the services. Your Board was informed that once the FY 05-06 State Budget was adopted and our CalWORKs Single Allocation was known, it would be possible to assess the availability of funding for the rest of FY 05-06. In the interim, in order to sustain existing services, your Board authorized funding the services through December 31, 2005.

With the adoption of the State Budget and the State's allocation of CalWORKs Single Allocation funding, DPSS has determined that there is sufficient funding to sustain LAHSA's outreach and emergency shelter services through June 30, 2006 at a cost of \$1,500,000.

Additionally, there are adequate Single Allocation funds available to continue the Emergency EAPE and MA programs for DPSS' WtW CalWORKs participants; however, more PI-NCC funding will be needed to fund these programs to the end of FY 05-06 for CalWORKs families who are not part of the WtW program, such as families with no aided adult and families where the adult is exempt from WtW participation.

In May 2005, your Board approved that any PI-NCC funds not utilized by June 30, 2006, were to be allocated in FY 06-07 to sustain CalWORKs homeless prevention services to the extent those services cannot be funded through the CalWORKs Single Allocation. We have identified approximately \$1.9 million in PI-NCC funds that were allocated for the TSE program which will remain uncommitted this fiscal year as this program can be funded through available Single Allocation funds.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal #5: Children and Families' Well-Being: to improve the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County as measured by the achievements in the five outcome areas adopted by the Board: good health; economic well-being; safety and survival; social and emotional well-being; and educational/workforce readiness.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The maximum amount of the contract amendment is \$1,500,000. The cost of the amendment will be fully funded with CalWORKs Single Allocation. Funding for this contract is included in the FY 05-06 Adopted budget. There is no additional NCC after the required CalWORKs MOE is met.

The transfer of the \$1.9 million (PI-NCC) from the TSE program to the EAPE and MA programs will not have a fiscal impact, since these funds would otherwise remain uncommitted during FY 05-06. The PI-NCC funding for this program is included in the FY 05-06 Adopted budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

LAHSA subcontracts with community agencies countywide to provide emergency/transitional shelter to homeless families. The families must be aided on CalWORKs, and the adults on the case must be aided/time-limited and employed or participating in WtW activities (to qualify for Single Allocation funding). LAHSA has also teamed-up with staff from DPSS and the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Mental Health to seek out homeless families in Skid Row and connect them with available benefits and services.

This contract will not result in the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and will be in full compliance with federal, State and County regulations. The contract includes a provision that allows automatic termination in the event sufficient funds are not available.

LAHSA's performance will be monitored to ensure that its quality of service continues to meet the contract requirements that were achieved in the previous contract. The contract includes provisions for performance standards/outcome measures.

The amendment has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

The EAPE program was implemented as an intervention strategy to reduce homelessness for CalWORKs families. This program provides eligible CalWORKs families with rent and/or utility assistance for up to two months, or a maximum of \$2,000 per family to help prevent these families from losing their housing and becoming homeless. Families must be at risk of losing their housing because of non-payment of rent due to financial hardship, not for lease violations, and must demonstrate that they are experiencing a financial crisis (e.g., loss of a job), that could lead to homelessness if assistance is not given. In addition, they must provide proof of need.

The MA program was also implemented as an intervention strategy for CalWORKs families who are experiencing a financial hardship, or who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This program provides a maximum of \$2,000 to pay the last month's rent, security deposit, utility turn-on fees, moving expenses, and up to \$450 to pay for a stove and/or refrigerator.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

There are no additional requirements for the amendment since it extends an existing Agreement.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This project and this contract will assist homeless CalWORKs families in locating emergency and permanent housing. The contract will not infringe on the rights of the County in relationship to its residents, and the County's ability to respond to emergencies will not be impaired. There is no change in risk exposure to the County.

The continuation of the EAPE and MA programs will greatly benefit the non-WtW CalWORKs families in the prevention of homelessness.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted stamped Board Letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,



Bryce Yokomizo
Director

BY:bf

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors